

SEPTEMBER 1950



BIBLE  
SOCIETY



# Record



"Thy Word is Truth"

(See prayer on page 99)



# The Chaplains and the Bible in the New Crisis

BY FREDERICK W. CROPP

THE chaplains of the Armed Forces and the Veterans' Hospitals continue to look to the American Bible Society for Scriptures. The present crisis has stimulated requests for Scriptures for newly mobilized troops.

At the annual convention of the Military Chaplains' Association of the United States in Washington in May, the continuing theme was "Strengthening Spiritual Foundations". The work of the Bible Society was presented, and its work was illustrated in three ways.

For the chapel and for the Washington offices of the Association a Pulpit Bible and desk Bibles were presented. The Pulpit Bible was the gift of the Washington City Bible Society and was presented to President Frederick C. Reynolds by Secretary Cropp (see photograph).

The Bible Society had an exhibit table also, at which were given copies of the Four Gospels bound together for use among service men. In each volume the following inscription was placed:

This volume is typical of the service rendered by the American Bible Society to Chaplains of the Armed Forces and Veterans' Administration. During the past ten years the Society has distributed 598,764 Bibles, 4,850,266 Testaments and 2,934,505 Portions, a total of 8,383,535 volumes, at the request of the Chaplains. This work continues and, in 1949, 48,221 Bibles, 94,310 Testaments and 213,733 Portions, a total of 356,264 volumes, were presented to Chaplains at a cost of over \$65,000. These Scriptures are presented free to the Chaplains in the name of the Churches of America.

This volume may be a reminder of the Chaplains' Convention, May 9-11, 1950, in Washington, D.C. It comes to you with the best wishes of the American Bible Society and particularly your fellow Chaplains in that organization: Gilbert Darlington, Eric M. North, Frederick W. Cropp, New York; James V. Claypool, Chicago; John W. Osberg, Syracuse; Richard H. Ellingson, Minneapolis; Walter J. Lake, Pittsburgh.

Perhaps the most dramatic reference to the Society came at the spectacular banquet at the close of the conference. At that banquet a scroll was presented to General Douglas MacArthur as the American who

had made "the most outstanding contribution in the field of strengthening the spiritual foundations of citizenship as related to National Defense."

*Record* readers will be interested to know that General MacArthur's chaplain, Ivan L. Bennett, received the scroll and responded to the address of presentation. Especially significant was the statement that General MacArthur had asked for "ten million copies of the Bible or parts of the Bible in the Japanese language, to be distributed among the masses" and that the American Bible Society had already provided a significant number of these.

In the present widespread deployment of American troops it is important that men and women in the services receive copies of the Scriptures. Daily the requests are received and answered. Already, at the



*Secretary Cropp, right, presents to Frederick C. Reynolds, President of the Military Chaplains' Association, a Bible for the chapel pulpit at the Chaplains' Washington Headquarters*

half-way mark it is estimated that the \$40,000 provided in the Society's current budget will not be enough to meet the need; \$26,000 was expended from January 1 to June 30, 1950. But the staff of the Bible Society is confident that the Christian people of America will want their uniformed young men and their hospitalized veterans to have the Scriptures to strengthen personal as well as national spiritual foundations.



# Bible Society Record

A JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE WIDER DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE  
HOLY SCRIPTURES

VOLUME 95 SEPTEMBER • 1950 NUMBER 7

## This One Thing

### *A Century-Old Policy*

THE founding fathers of the American Bible Society in 1816 started the Society off with a single commission and charge: "To encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment." There was no other expressed aim or purpose. There was never need for any further orders or directives.

For these 134 years the Society has stuck closely to this single-aim program. It has distributed almost four hundred million (400,000,000) copies of God's Holy Word in hundreds of languages in all parts of the world—always "without note or comment."

Denominations have split apart because of doctrinal differences, but each section has continued its support of the American Bible Society.

Denominations have been split by war, and brother has fought against brother, but each opposing camp has continued its love and support of the American Bible Society.

Denominations have split over social questions, but neither side has broken with the American Bible Society.

Today a hundred or more sizable denominations flourish in America, a land which assures freedom of

worship; but in the American Bible Society they find a common meeting-ground. Here they work side by side in spite of their differences, all because they believe in the Bible as God's Word and share a common zeal for its wide circulation.

In all these things the wisdom of the Christian laymen and ministers of more than a century and a quarter ago is confirmed: "Encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment." That was the single purpose for which they founded a great institution. And the wisdom of the Board of Managers of the Society, drawn as it has been from the membership of many denominations, has been shown by its faithful adherence to the course set by the founding fathers of giving the Scriptures to the nations of the world "without note or comment."

The American Bible Society is not a teaching institution, and it has avoided controversy by simply circulating the Scriptures in many languages to all the world in strict accordance with the terms of its charter.

For all the years to come this single purpose will dominate the Society.

### A PRAYER

Offered at the Close of the 134th Annual Meeting of the American Bible Society, May 11, 1950

*Almighty God, Thou art our light and life, our strength and beauty!*

We are gathered here, impelled by Thy Word, for the sake of Thy Word. Each day we learn how it gives life to all men; how truly it is a light to our path in a confused world. It is Thou who hast planted in us the need for this Thy Word.

We thank Thee that the Word reaches every land; for the thousand tongues in which it sings—in Africa and Asia and Latin America and the South Seas. We thank Thee that it enters the hearts of the blind and mute, to bring them music and beauty in darkness, courage in the midst of despair, uplift to failing hearts and always a sight of Thy way. We are grateful that this Society sends out Braille Bibles everywhere, so that the blind may read.

More than ever, do Thou send out through us Thy light and Thy truth. Let them enter our lives today and the lives of all men throughout Thy world. Send Thy light and Thy truth into every home and hospital and office and shop. Thy Word is truth!

Teach us to minister to all Thy children everywhere. We wait constantly, continually, for Thy Word!  
Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

EDWARD H. HUME, M.D.



# Illustrated Gospel of St. Luke

*A New Departure in the American Bible Society's production of Gospel Portions*

BY FRANCIS C. STIFLER

MORE than a century ago a renowned French philosopher and theologian called the Gospel of Luke "the most beautiful book ever written." An old legend has it that Luke, besides being a physician, was also an artist. There is, at least, symbolic truth in this story; for the author of the Third Gospel painted word pictures that have hung in the galleries of men's minds through all the Christian generations—pictures found nowhere else in the Gospels: The Nativity, the boy Jesus in the temple, the Parables of the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, the Lost Sheep, the Rich Man and Lazarus; the story of the raising of the widow's son at Nain; the anointing in the house of Simon the Pharisee; the mission of the Seventy; the visit to the home of Mary and Martha; the story of the ten lepers; the Pharisee and the publican at prayer; the story of Zacchæus; the detailed story of the risen Lord's appearance on the road to Emmaus. How much we should have had to go without, had Luke never taken up his pen!

In the realm of poetry Luke's Gospel also stands high, with his reporting in his first two chapters



*The cover and glimpses of the pages of the new illustrated Gospel of Luke*

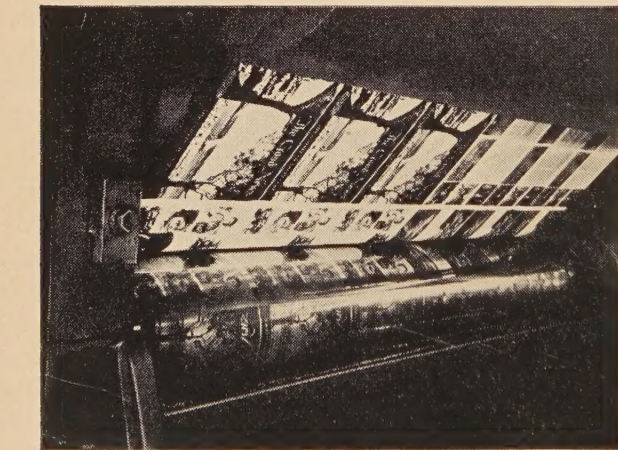
This the Society has undertaken to do within the limits of cost that are set for an inexpensive volume designed for the widest possible circulation.

The new volume is entitled "The Good News" and contains 60 pictures selected after many weeks of search for their authenticity and beauty; two maps; and an introductory statement describing ancient Palestine and Jerusalem. The captions of the pictures give additional information. The text woven among the pictures is that of the familiar and beloved King James Version in bold-faced, self-pronouncing type. The 32 pages are magazine size, 8¼ by 11 inches, and the printing is done in a black ink slightly shaded toward green.

By exercising every reasonable economy the Society is able to distribute the new illustrated Gospel of Luke in quantities of fifty or more in cartons, at five cents a copy. In lesser quantities the price is six cents. These figures represent the cost, as the American Bible Society does not distribute any of its books on a commercial basis.

Likewise, as it does in all its work, the Society is desirous of making this attractive presentation of the Gospel as widely acceptable as possible.

It has therefore been prepared not only in English, the first edition of which was 500,000 copies; but the publication program for 1950 also calls for 500,000 in German, 500,000 in Japanese, 500,000 in Chinese and 100,000 in Korean. To these may be added later editions of 500,000 in Spanish and of 200,000 in Portuguese, for use principally in Latin America.



*The new volume coming from the high-speed press. Over 2,000,000 copies in various languages are scheduled for production this year*

not only the song of the angels at the birth of Christ, but those songs of Mary, Zacharias and Simeon which we have come to call the Magnificat, the Benedictus and the Nunc Dimittis.

"The most beautiful book ever written" deserves to be presented in the most attractive form possible.



In our own country "The Good News" should become one of the most useful publications the American Bible Society has ever made available. It is ideal for Daily Vacation Bible Schools, for Christmas distribution, for pastoral visitation, for awards for such institutions as hospitals, homes for the aged, orphanages, penal institutions and the like.

A major problem in American life is to get the Bible read. Unlike many mission lands, the Bible must, in American life, compete with a flood of other literature, much of which is produced with

arresting eye appeal. In its customary appearance the Bible or parts thereof presents plain type set solid and unadorned. In its new Gospel of Luke the Society has attempted to meet this situation in the interest of encouraging regular Bible reading.

Supplies of the new Illustrated Gospel of Luke are available at any of the Society's five depositories as listed on the inside back cover of this issue of *The Record*. It is hoped that many additional printings may be found necessary in all the languages in which the new volume appears.

## The Bible in African Speech

*Fresh testimony to the innate power of God's Word as it speaks its Redemptive Message to a people who hitherto had no written tongue*

BY J. A. PERSSON

THE Bible occupies a unique position among the peoples of Africa. Until the coming of the missionaries, they had no books at all, not even a written language. In most other mission fields the Scriptures have from the first had to win their way against an established and revered literature which already had its place in the lives and thought of the people. The people, too, were not interested in books; and those who desired to read the Bible had frequently to face strong opposition and persecution.

How different the situation in Africa! In many parts even today, the Word of God is the only "reading material" for a people thirsting for knowledge. Though that is not true now in the Inhambane field, I can well remember in my early years how people used to flock around someone who was reading aloud from the New Testament. Even now one finds the newly literate, who have just finished the primer, following the lines in the Testament with the finger, letter by letter and word by word; and thus do they learn to read. What is more, they do get the message of the Word written in their hearts.

What a unique opportunity! What a challenge to provide God's Word to a people hungering for knowledge—but what a responsibility this places on the missionary translator!

The first version in an African language, however

Mr. Persson is a native of Sweden, who went to South Africa many years ago as a missionary printer. With the help of several Tshwa men he revised the Tshwa New Testament, which the American Bible Society printed in 1928, and he is now at work on a revision of the Old Testament.

Because of his seasoned experience and his deeply spiritual personality, Mr. Persson made a great contribution to the United Bible Societies' Conference of Bible Translators in 1947 at Ziest, Holland.

faulty in grammar and idiom, becomes an object of veneration and later, when a revision becomes necessary, the revisers are accused of tampering with the Word of God.

The Tshwa people of Portuguese East Africa have had the whole Bible in their own language for forty years. It is wonderful to see how God has blessed them through the reading of it, in spite of its many inaccuracies. Still, it is a danger to the speech of the people on account of its stilted form and many foreign idioms. A handicap to the missionary translator is the fact that he has learned the language after reaching adult years and generally fails to gain the remarkable fluency of the African. In spite of that, we find that African assistants are more apt to be too literal in their renderings than the European.

The story is told of Dr. Malcolm, professor of Zulu in Natal University College. He and a native Zulu were asked to do some translating of a government notice. Both of the translations were then submitted to some educated Zulu men, who immediately said that it was obvious that one of the translations had been done by a Zulu and the other by a European. However, they were wrong in deciding which person had done which translation. Dr. Malcolm had translated the meaning of the English into idiomatic Zulu, while the native Zulu speaker had felt obliged to translate more or less word for word. The result was not idiomatic Zulu, for English idioms and structure had been forced into a Zulu lexical mould.

However, not many of us are Dr. Malcolms. In my own work I prefer not to depend on my knowledge of Tshwa idiom; so the first draft is done by educated Africans who have been cautioned against literal renderings. These men follow translations in other modern languages. I have one helper who speaks



fluently both English and Portuguese and is familiar with three or more African versions. In following my instructions to make sure each sentence has a clear meaning, they are tempted to paraphrase; but such faults are easily detected and rectified when the draft is gone over by the missionary who has other languages at his command and possesses a somewhat clearer insight in such matters.

African languages are usually very rich in words which describe what the native has experienced or what he sees in and around his village. The great difficulty is that of rendering the many abstract spiritual conceptions of our religion. When a language lacks the equivalent of words like "love,"

"forgiveness," "sin," "righteousness," "holiness" and many others, then it becomes necessary to create new words or to inject new meanings into words in common use. In fact, the language as well as the individual and the tribe must be converted.

In spite of the many difficulties of translating the inspired and living Word, it often speaks to us more distinctly through the African versions than through our native tongue. One missionary said she got a clearer understanding of Paul's letter to the Romans after reading the Tshwa revised version than she had before. It is a testimony to its divine origin that it speaks as convincingly to every tribe and through every age.

## Radio Colporteur

*Describing another way in which the Saving Message of God's Word may be brought to American Homes where Christ is Not Known*

BY JOHN W. OSBERG

THIS story goes back many years to a time when Rev. William L. Taylor was pastor of a church in Dayton, Ohio. One day as he passed a radio station he felt impelled to go in; he came out with a contract to broadcast a daily series called "Back to the Bible." Down through the years—first in Dayton, Ohio, then in California, now in Binghamton, N.Y.—he has continued to augment his pastoral ministry with this daily radio service, aimed at reaching the otherwise unreached with the Word of God.

To the accompaniment of the soft twitter of canaries Dr. and Mrs. Taylor sing gospel hymns, read and expound the Word on a fifteen-minute broadcast over Station WKOP each week-day morning. In the course of one such broadcast it occurred to Dr. Taylor that while he referred to the Bible repeatedly in his messages, many people might not even have a copy of the Bible.

So it was that a little more than a year ago he included in the body of his message a statement something like this: "Any of you who do not have a Bible and would like to have one to read may write to me, and I will try to send you one."

The response to this casual offer was immediate and extensive. Through a special arrangement with

the American Bible Society Dr. Taylor's church has been purchasing Bibles ever since for radio listeners who ask for them. Even though WKOP is heard only in a limited area around Binghamton, and even though the offer of Bibles is given only casually and not very frequently, the result has been the distribution of over 1,500 Bibles in a little over a year. Impressive as this figure is in itself, its deeper significance is in the spiritual value released. Dr. Taylor is a true colporteur by radio.

A glance at excerpts from just a few of the letters received gives a good idea of how important this ministry of the Bible is.

A listener from Warren Center, Pennsylvania, writes:

If you have any Bibles left, would you please send one to an elderly man that has gone all through life not having a Bible of his own? I know he would appreciate it.

From Binghamton came a letter telling of a prisoner who had accepted Christ:

Would appreciate having a Bible sent to ——— This man accepted Christ as his Saviour at the jail meeting April 24th. He doesn't have a Bible.

That the Bible is still the message of hope and comfort to people in their times of illness is demonstrated by this letter from Whitney Point, New York:



*Dr. and Mrs. William Taylor in their unique radio studio*



I am writing to ask you if I may have one of the Bibles. I want it for my husband in a hospital. He was under the oxygen tent five days. He would like it very much. We are in the country, can't get out . . .

What a privilege it is to be the means of bringing the first Bible into a home! One listener wrote:

Here I am, asking for another Bible. We have a family on our road who don't even know what a Bible is. Two of our children went up there and read some from the Bible to them, and they said they would like to have a Bible, so would you please send them one?

The name and address of the family followed.

While we often think of the Bible as a blessing to those who are ill, it isn't often that a sick person is a spiritual minister to a nurse. One nurse, however, wrote to Dr. Taylor:

I understand from a patient of mine that you are giving away Bibles on your program called "Back to the Bible." I have never had a Bible of my own and would welcome this as an opportunity.

Possibly the most eloquent illustration of this radio ministry was contained in the following excerpts from two letters from a listener in Sidney, New York:

My heart is burdened, for my son is unsaved. Would you send him and his wife a Bible?

A few days after receiving this letter and forwarding the Bible to the son, Dr. Taylor received the following letter:

I am rejoicing in the Lord more than ever. My son and family came down from —— and took me home with them. Then, last night we all went to my church, and I led my son and daughter-in-law to the altar, where they both accepted the Lord as their personal Saviour. I am so very grateful to you for sending him the Bible and following it with your prayers. When we went home Sunday night, my son took his Bible and read to us for a long time.

In recounting these and many other experiences Dr. Taylor said that probably the most graphic illustration of the power of the Word came to him from a woman listener. Living far out on a back road, this woman made a practice of reading the Bible sent her aloud, and shortly accepted Christ as the Lord of her own life. Her husband followed her in her decision, as did her entire family, and later a family who lived next door to them. A single Bible was primarily responsible for leading the eleven members of these two families to a saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Who can gauge the importance of a colporteur by radio? How many other communities have a church which sponsors a daily or weekly devotional service? What a challenge, as a message similar to Dr. Taylor's might go out to literally thousands of unreached homes across the entire United States, offering the Word of God to those who might otherwise never have it.

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

## Late News from China

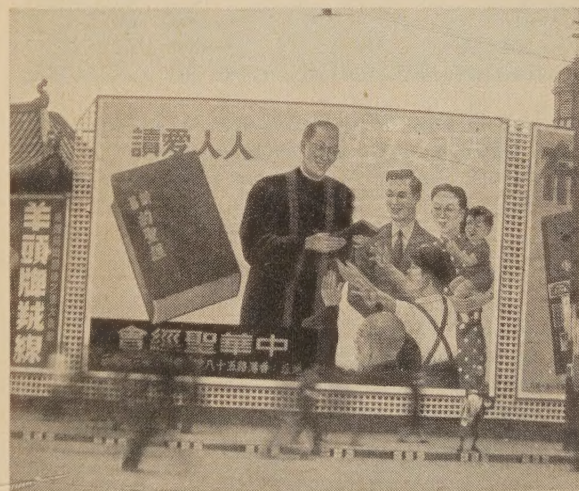
Secretary Mortensen of the Society's China Agency wrote in June:

In the enclosed picture you will see me discussing publication problems with Mr. Chiang (at my right) and Mr. Shen. We have just been reading the good news about



the great increase in circulation in Canton and are planning a heavy printing program for the second half of 1950, to build up our depleted stocks. We have now passed the experimental stage with regard to Chinese Bible paper and India paper and can now go full steam ahead.

Earlier Dr. Mortensen had sent two pictures, one of which is reproduced below, showing billboards used by the China Bible House in Shanghai. The one pictured



here is on Nanking Road, one of the greatest thoroughfares of Shanghai, formerly called Bubbling Well Road. There are several theaters in this area, and people streaming out of the theaters cannot help seeing this sign as they walk past and ride past in pedicabs, trams or buses. It is across the street from the Race Club headquarters. When the picture was taken the contract had run out, but since advertising is one of the lines of business suffering from inaction just now in Shanghai, there appears to be no disposition to remove the sign. The text in the billboard states that the Bible is the great Book of the World; and below, it reads: "The Book everyone wishes to read."





*Student Christian Fellowship Bible Class. Methodist Missionary Jack Moss at extreme right*



*Saturday afternoon Bible Class for employees of Press Mainichi, one of Japan's great newspapers*



*A garbage collector meets a colporteur in an alley, halts his cart and learns the story of Jesus*

*Dogs can present a problem to the bookseller. They are often also a point of contact between animal lovers. The old gentleman in the picture bought a copy of the Gospel of John*



## Bibles "for Every Vil

BY RO

IT IS NOT too late in Japan! The people are eager to read the Bible in their own language. The ways for effective distribution of the Scriptures are open *now!*

General MacArthur has asked for 10,000,000 volumes of the Scriptures for Japan at once and has also urged a permanent program for furnishing the Bible for the people of "every village and hamlet in the land." Since V-J Day in 1945 the American Bible Society has supplied to Japan over 4,000,000 copies of the Scriptures.

But this is only a beginning. The Bible is Japan's spiritual armament. Will we be there "too late with too little"? The answer to that question depends on the Christian people of America.

The American Bible Society, with the help of the Japan Bible Society, can print and distribute in Japan 3,000,000 Japanese Scriptures in 1950 and 5,000,000 Japanese Scriptures in 1951, if it receives only \$500,000 for this purpose—a small sum to match such an opportunity.

Thus far signers of the "Good Will book," the book of signatures to be presented in dramatic ceremonies in Japan in November, have given over \$100,000. Other designated gifts for Japan thus far in 1950 amount to over \$60,000. We still need \$340,000 for the Japan program!

The American Bible Society has an effective, economical, permanent program for Scripture work in Japan. Already 85 colporteurs of the Japan Bible Society are traveling over Japan by bicycle, selling the Japanese New Testaments and Bibles. Yes, selling!—selling at the price the people can afford to pay. Your gifts make up the difference.

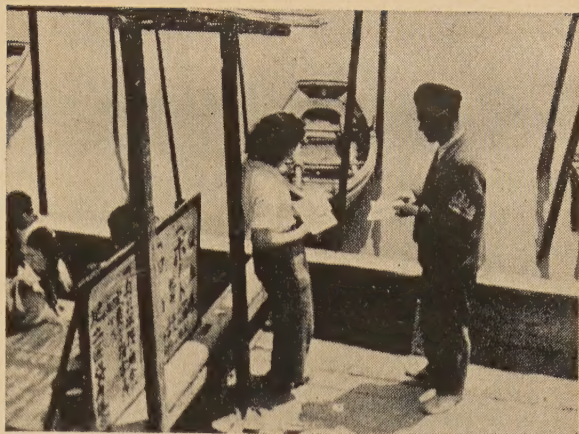
*Mr. Motoichi Higuchi, president of the Japan Bible Society, where J*







*Unloading crates of Bibles at Bible House, Tokyo*



*Colporteur Kojima had just crossed the Arakawa Stream by ferry. The ferry keeper became so interested in his books that she bought a set of the Gospels*

## "d Hamlet" in Japan

YLOR

If he has no money to buy and is eager to read he is, of course, given a Gospel or New Testament or Bible.

The Society knows from long experience that a complete "give-away" program on a mission field is haphazard and wasteful of Christian gifts.

The American Bible Society program works through the Japan Bible Society. The project is one of the Japanese people. This means the Bible is not offered as an American book, but as God's Book for all people.

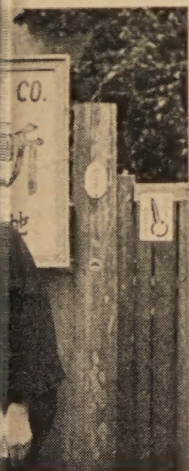
Just think of it—for only \$500,000 a total of 8,000,000 volumes can go out in such effective distribution that there is reasonable assurance every volume will be read by at least one person—often by many more.

Every penny received by sale remains with the Japan Bible Society for future Bible production. No money comes back to the American Society. This means the establishing of permanent Bible production by Japanese people for Japanese people.

Do you know any place in the world where your dollars can do more for Christ?

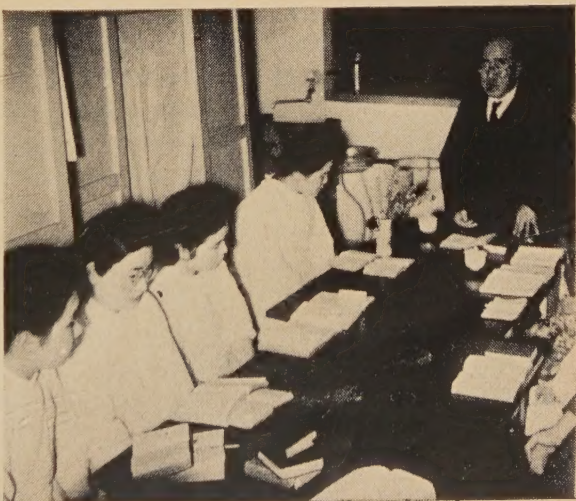
No wonder Chaplain Ivan L. Bennett, Colonel, United States Army and member of General MacArthur's staff, wrote after a recent survey trip: "Everywhere in Japan I hear praise of what the American Bible Society has done to get Scriptures in Japanese for the people here. I doubt if any similar amount of money invested here will ever be productive of so much good as will come of this investment made by the American Bible Society. The people are avid readers; on trains and at stations one sees them with Testaments or Gospels in hand, reading."

no Braille Publish-  
ptures are printed



*Chaplain A. J. Turner presents Bibles to the mayor of the leper colony in Okinawa. The mayor holds the Bibles. At the right is the colony pastor, also a leper. Of 880 patients, 169 are Christians*

*Pastor Ichinomiya of the Nippon Kirisuto Kyodan teaches a Bible class in the San-Iku-Kwai Hospital, Tokyo*





# The Desert Pulpit

*And a glimpse at the tireless work of a consecrated worker who lives for the salvation of people whom almost everyone else neglects*

BY RICHARD E. WEST

THE Desert Pulpit is presided over by Rev. Oscar L. Smith. As its name implies, it is a mobile pulpit reaching into the migrant camps and spreading the Gospel to people who are on the move. In fact, much of the time Mr. Smith's speaker-equipped car is his pulpit.

Something of the character of this tireless worker is suggested by his various activities. He serves as a special deputy in the section of Tucson where he lives. From midnight until 4 a.m. he patrols the predominantly Spanish neighborhood. He has rescued pay checks from drunken workers, holding them until the owner was sober, saving the family from certain loss. One night he talked a drink-crazed man into giving him a large knife with which the man had been threatening family and friends. A fatherless family nearby has been the constant recipient of his aid, even to his assistance in building them a home. The children of this family refer to him as "Uncle Oscar"; but he is more like a father, even to the point of helping them choose their companions. In all this, as with his work in the camps, Mrs. Smith is full partner.

At Christmas time—with the assistance of the First Baptist and the Christian and Missionary Alliance churches of Tucson—clothing, toys and candy were distributed in twenty-eight migrant camps. It was part of a project through which Mr. Smith expects to distribute 4,000 New Testaments among the children in the cotton camps of the Casa Grande, Coolidge and Eloy areas in Arizona. Ministers of the various Tucson churches take turns traveling with Mr. Smith. On Saturday fourteen meetings were held in various camps, and on Sunday evening a central service is held at Eleven Mile Camp near the town of Coolidge.

These are but a few of the interests of this dauntless worker, who talks like a mountaineer and lives more like a Saint Nicholas. His English is poor, but his soul is glorious; and his soul shines out through his speech. Central in his interest and work is his chosen task as a distributor for the American Bible Society. He is certain that the only solution to the problems which press in upon these people is the Gospel. You can understand his joy when he was promised a gift of 2,000 Testaments from the American Bible Society to distribute among "his" children. These he gave out to the children freely upon their promise to read and study.

There is now much more denominational and

inter-denominational religious work done in the camps than before Mr. Smith started his ministry. Formerly it was a rather lonesome and demanding task when he drove from camp to camp, holding services in each. He is happy now to see an increasing interest and concern on the part of the churches to do something for "his" people. Yet he is an individualist and can't quite agree that all of the work



*The first thousand Testaments supplied by the American Bible Society for Arizona cotton camps are dedicated. Left, Rev. William Foley, pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, Tucson, Arizona; right, Rev. Oscar Smith*

good. "I'm a product of Billy Sunday's revivals," I says, "and he himself said to me, 'Brother Oscar don't ever change!' I haven't, either." Naturally there are some points of friction between him and those using different methods of ministering to the people. This is to be expected. But all who know and understand him see him as a pioneer in ministering to a forgotten people.

"Brother Oscar Smith" will continue as long as he draws breath to preach the Gospel in the untouched places of Arizona. He will insist, and rightly so, that the "Word of God" is the heart of his mission. And from it we hear a voice saying, "When saw we thee ahungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?" And we hear the answer, "Verily I say unto you. Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."



## He Gets the Books Out

CONSECRATED and obedient Christian service always bears fruit one hundredfold. To look at Clyde Harris one would see nothing different from the other 1,200 members of the First Baptist Church in Corbin, Kentucky, but to make a closer examination it is easily seen that he is unusual in one particular field of Christian service—that of Bible distribution.

After much prayer and a special leading from the Lord, Mr. Harris approached his pastor with the request that he find some Bible publishers from whom Mr. Harris could purchase Bibles at his own ex-



*Clyde Harris and the motel where he distributes hundreds of Scriptures to his guests*

use to distribute among unsaved and unfortunate people, including the sick and shut-ins. The pastor immediately took the suggestion to Rev. G. Bruce Mermon, the American Bible Society's Secretary in Cincinnati. Soon thereafter Mr. Harris was in full swing in his distribution of Scripture portions, Testaments and Bibles to unsaved people who came to his filling station in Corbin. He found time to take age-print Bibles free to elderly people whose eyesight was failing. Later he ordered Testaments to be given out to people in the hospitals. Through ministerial students in Cumberland College at Williamsburg, Kentucky he is distributing Portions to prisoners and others. Likewise, through young teachers in other schools, he is furnishing Scripture portions for free distribution to the unsaved people. As co-owner of the Stewart Motel, one of the finest in the Southland, he is placing Scriptures in the hands of his thousands of guests. Beside the bed in each of the fifty ultra-modern rooms of the motel is an attractively bound copy of the Bible which Mr. Harris has secured from the American Bible Society. His pastor, Dr. E. O. Edwards, is helping him in every way possible to place the Scriptures in needy hands.

When asked for some statement and photographs of his work for the *Bible Society Record*, Mr. Harris said, "I don't know what all this business is about getting my picture and that of the motel, but if my pastor says it's all right, I'll let it go at that!"

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

## Believers in World Maps

BY R. R. GREGORY

THE TEL Bible Class of the First Baptist Church, Balboa Heights, Canal Zone, is a believer in world maps. The Apostle James might also have written of this group of Christian women: "They, too, are doers of the Word, and not hearers only." The great majority of the TEL (Timothy, Eunice, Lois) Bible Class are the wives of employees who help maintain the Panama Canal, situated at the crossroads of the New World—one of the strategic areas of the globe.

The First Baptist Church, Balboa Heights, is an average-size church with a wide-awake congregation and a pastor with a vision. In concern for Scripture distribution to other parts of the world, it might be difficult to find a class of twenty-seven women with such a record.

Someone has said that two of the tests of the Christian were "good eyesight and a knowledge of geography"—those who can see afar and those who have a deep concern for people living beyond their own national borders. The TEL Bible Class meets this test admirably.

During the last twelve months this Bible class has forwarded funds to the Central America Agency of the American Bible Society, and requested Scriptures to be sent to the following countries:

- \$65—New Testaments for Japan
- \$75—New Testaments for Korea
- \$75—New Testaments for Czechoslovakia or to refugees speaking languages used in that country
- \$82—Portions of the Bible and New Testament for distribution by various Mission groups in the interior of the Republic of Panama
- \$107—German Bibles to be sent in the care of a US Army corporal in Germany who formerly was a faithful attendant at the Balboa Heights Church
- \$132—New Testaments for China
- \$167—New Testaments for Ecuador, South America

Here is basic missionary cooperation of the first order—making God's Word available to those in need, wherever they may live.

*A group of the TEL Bible Class of the First Baptist Church, Balboa Heights, Canal Zone. Mrs. Estelle Atkinson, teacher, second from left*





# THE BIBLE—A LIGHT AND GUIDE

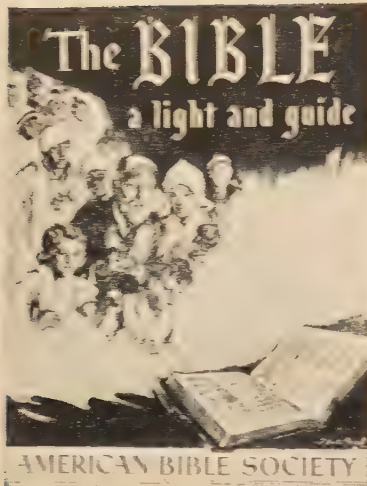
## *Seventh Annual Worldwide Bible Reading*

THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS 1950

Universal Bible Sunday December 10, 1950

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SUMNER WELLES

**H**AVE you friends and loved ones whose attitude toward reading the Bible is either that of indifference or of perplexity? Those who are unfamiliar with their Bible, who are somewhat frightened by its size, its many Books, its difference in language, and its unique arrangement may well be invited to open their copies and find pleasure in these great passages to be read between Thanksgiving and Christmas. A Worldwide Bible Reading list is a ready device to put into their hands to start them off. Send for all you need.

Used daily as a guide, the Bible will become the nourishment and inspiration craved to brighten a Christian's pilgrimage. The Word of God is not dead, but alive and active. You who are holders of the

light which each Christian must have to direct him on his path, recognize the important place which the Scriptures have in bringing people to a vital Christian experience.

Let the Bible become our best book, personally. Let it become the best book for nations, worldwide. Let it become the Book of the Church, every church. Let readers get through the Book to the life of Jesus within the Book. Let many echo the ideal of Francis Willard: "My strongest intellectual thirst is to know more of the Word."

Thy Word a lamp unto my feet,  
A light through darksome day;  
For shadows flee with Him as Guide  
Along the heavenly way! (*Kathleen Hay*)

### WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING PASSAGES FOR 1950

Thanksgiving, Nov. 23	.....	Psalms 121
24	.....	Psalms 1
25	.....	Matthew 5
Sunday, Nov. 26	.....	John 1:1-18
27	.....	Exodus 20:1-17
28	.....	Psalms 51
29	.....	Luke 11
30	.....	Psalms 27
Friday, Dec. 1	.....	Psalms 43
2	.....	Psalms 119: 105-112
Sunday, Dec. 3	.....	Proverbs 4:1-19
4	.....	John 8:1-19
5	.....	John 12:23-36
6	.....	II Peter 1
7	.....	Isaiah 55
8	.....	Psalms 91
9	.....	Psalms 23

Universal Bible	
Sunday, Dec. 10	.....
11	.....
12	.....
13	.....
14	.....
15	.....
16	.....
Sunday, Dec. 17	.....
18	.....
19	.....
20	.....
21	.....
22	.....
23	.....
Sunday, Dec. 24	.....
Christmas, Dec. 25	.....



# MEMBERS' FORUM

Annual Membership in the Society is secured through gift of \$5 or more for the carrying on of its work. The Society also provides for Life Membership, Life Directorship and Memorial Membership. Particulars will be sent on request. The editors welcome correspondence from members and devote this page in each issue to that purpose.]

## From High Point, North Carolina:

Although I am only a school-girl without much money of my own, I cannot help but feel that whatever little I can give will do someone some good. And at the thought that it is going to such a worthy cause, instead of being spent on movies and other pleasures, makes me feel a little better toward myself and the rest of the world. I'm beginning to wonder if small contributions don't help me more than the receivers.

They *do* help me so much. I am honored to be able to give something to those who have nothing. Thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

## From Centreport, Pennsylvania:

We are very much interested in sending the Gospel of Jesus Christ to Japan.

To think that Japan, only a few short years ago our deadly enemy, is now clamoring for the Word of God! To me that is the greatest miracle I ever heard of.

Please use our check for \$30 to send the Gospel to Japan.

## From Los Angeles, California:

This evening, reading through the January *Record*, I was impressed with the urgent need of more Bibles in the world. Enclosed find my check for \$25 to help supply the need of those who hunger for the Word of God.

Reading your *Record* I was led to give this money to the work of the Lord. Please see that it goes to those who need it. I am a Colored woman, a widow, 65 years of age, and a lifelong worker for the Lord.

## From College Park, Georgia:

I want to let you know that, because of the confidence you established in your methods of work, I have an additional check yesterday for \$15 through my church, marked for the American Bible Society to give Bibles now to Japan.

## From São Paulo, Brazil:

Greetings in His Name. Our congregation took an offering at Christmas time to be applied on New Testaments and Gospels for Japan and Germany. Am sending a check for \$12.50 to be equally divided be-

tween those countries. Sorry it isn't more, but our congregation is just one and a half years old, and Brazilian money is worth little.

If it will prove a help, you may use the first paragraph above in the *Record*.

## From Vero Beach, Florida:

I received your check of \$76.31 for interest on my annuities, but I can't keep it, knowing the urgent demands for the Word of God. I am enclosing my check for \$100 to be used for the Japanese people.

Our Saviour said, rather lay your treasures up in heaven where moth and rust do not corrupt nor thieves break through and steal. I hardly know of a better way to lay treasures up in Heaven than to give to the American Bible Society.

## From Cicero, Illinois:

I am sending \$2 to your great Christian institution, paying a small interest on a great loan made way back in October 1903, when an old lady at a New York railroad station put in my hand the Gospel of St. John. It was the beginning of finding the way to go to my Saviour, Jesus Christ. Long time, is it? I was single and about 20 years old and had just come from Italy. What confusion was on my mind about religion! Hundreds of roads were leading in the darkness, but the little book I got from the old lady (bless her soul) told me that Jesus Christ was the Way; and I and my family, three children—all married now, with Christian wives and husbands and their little ones—are all striving to follow the same Christ that I found in the Gospel of St. John. This poor English that I am writing I learned in Christian church evening school, so keep on throwing bread upon the water; some hungry one will pick up.

## From Dover, Ohio:

I have been intending to send you a check from my "tithe fund," and since I received an unexpected sum of money last week, I am able to double the amount and am enclosing a money order for \$50. Please use this for Bibles for Japan.

I enjoy reading the *Bible Society Record*. It contains so many good articles and has such a ring of sincerity that I always finish reading it with the wish that I could send you a really large check for such a great need.

## From Jacksonville, Florida:

I have been placing memorial flowers in my church each first Sunday of June in loving memory of my husband, but have decided this June to observe the day by sending you a small check to provide Bibles for those who are clamoring for the truth, and because I wish to have a part in your campaign for distributing 10,000,000 Bibles in Japan.



# EDITORIAL COMMENT

## Bible Society Record

*A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution and Use of the Holy Scriptures*

**Editors: THE SECRETARIES**

*Address correspondence to the*

*Managing Editor*

**FRANCIS CARR STIFLER**

*450 Park Avenue*

*New York 22, N. Y.*



Vol. 95 SEPTEMBER 1950 No. 7

### Daily Bible Readings

#### SEPTEMBER

Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter
1	Ecclesiastes	3	15	Nehemiah	8:1-16
2	Ecclesiastes	5	16	1 John	5
3	Sunday, Ecclesiastes	12	17	Sunday, Judges	14
4	Psalms	67	18	Judges	15
5	Psalms	84	19	Judges	16
6	Psalms	145	20	11 Corinthians	4
7	Ezekiel	2	21	Matthew	9
8	Hosea	6	22	Micah	4
9	Hosea	14	23	Micah	6:1-8
10	Sunday, Ezra	7:6-13	24	Sunday, Jonah	1
11	Ezra	9:5-15	25	Jonah	2
12	Nehemiah	1	26	Jonah	3
13	Nehemiah	4:1-9	27	Jonah	4
14	Nehemiah	6:1-9	28	Psalms	96
			29	Matthew	18
			30	Revelation	12

★ ★

### "Gems For Thought" about the Bible

Secretary Stifler will be heard from coast to coast twice each *Friday* during September, which is the closing month of his thirteenth season of network broadcasting about the Bible. The series is a part of the American Broadcasting Company's daily program entitled "Gems For Thought." Beginning September 1 the daytime program is heard over ABC's master station WJZ in New York at 12:55 P.M., E.D.T. It is recorded at that time by the other stations of the network, to be used later. It is suggested that *Record* readers ascertain from their local ABC outlets when it may be heard. The evening program is heard at 11:55 P.M., E.D.T., each Friday on both WJZ and the network.

The themes for the month are, September 1, A.M., "When the World Turned a Corner," P.M., "Shifting Yokes

in Mexico"; September 8, A.M., "The Russians Love the Bible Too," P.M., "The Epistle of Paul, Timothy, Mark and Luke"; September 15, A.M., "The Bible in the Philippines," P.M., "Grounding Your Child in the Bible"; September 22, A.M., "Now I Can Answer," P.M., "Prayer and the Bible"; September 29, A.M., "The Bible Says 'I Can,'" P.M., "The Everlasting Yes."

★ ★

At exactly the same hours as Secretary Stifler's Friday programs, the American Broadcasting Company, in cooperation with the Protestant Radio Commission, has also assigned two programs every Tuesday to the American Bible Society to interview well-known people in American life as to their favorite passage of Scripture and why they have chosen it. The testimonies are given by persons in all walks of life—government, education, industry, labor, journalism, sports, radio, the stage and screen; for everywhere in American life there are devout Bible readers.

★ ★

### Bible Mastery Month

The twenty-first annual Bible Mastery Month campaign conducted by the Presbytery of Seattle will be observed in October. Though local in origin, the response is worldwide. It operated last year in every state save five, in five Canadian provinces and six foreign lands; more than twenty-four denominations were represented, with thousands of faithful readers, and many pastors crowning the program with their expositions.

"The Royal Epistle," Hebrews, with its keyword "better", is chosen for this year. The slogan is "The Surpassing Christ." There are alternative commitments, either to read the epistle through daily or to read at least three chapters daily. A pledge card is available for recording the reader's commitment. Writes a leader of Southern Presbyterian women, "Many of our women will read as much as the entire Book of Hebrews daily."

The Bible Mastery Method, the method of the masters, was used and advocated by such men as Campbell Morgan, James Stalker, Richard G. Moulton, J. M. Gray, William Evans and others.

After the campaign last year a California reader wrote, "I am certainly convinced that this way of reading the Bible is the best way, for I derived so much information and a real blessing." A New Hampshire reader said, "No method I have used gets one so into the thought of the writer."

Those interested may secure further information, a four-page leaflet, Bible bookmark and commitment card by sending an addressed, stamped envelope to Rev. C. J. Boppell, Chairman, 2603 37th Ave., S.W. Seattle 6, Washington.

★ ★

### July Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirty-fifth year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, July 6, 1950 at 3:30 p.m., Daniel Burke, LL.D., was the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. Carl E. Holmes.

Secretary North reported on the meeting of the Standing Committee of the United Bible Societies in England, June, at which were also present representatives of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the National Bible Society of Scotland, the Danish Bible Society, the Norwegian Bible Society and the Netherlands Bible Society.

The publication of an illustrated edition of the Book of Acts similar to the already published edition of St. Luke was approved.

Approval was given to the publication in diglot form with Spanish, of an edition of 2,500 copies of the Gospel of St. Mark translated into San Blas by Mr. Pedro Miller and Mr. Iglesias, and also to the publication in diglot form of the entire New Testament in Ecuadorean Quechua in an edition of 3,000.

The publication in diglot form of an edition of 1,000 copies of St. Mark Piro, translated by Esther Matteson, was also authorized.

Secretary F. Lyman MacCallum of the Bible Lands Agency, North, who arrived in the United States in early June, spoke briefly to the Board and gave an interesting report on the work in his field, including Turkey, Greece, Syria, Bulgaria, Iraq and Eastern Arabia.

### Form of a Bequest to the Society

I give and bequeath to the American Bible Society formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the sum of

If real estate is given, for the last three words above, "the sum of," substitute the words "the following property, to wit."



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